

February 24, 2021

IIU concludes investigation into death in presence of WPS officers

The Independent Investigation Unit of Manitoba (IIU) has concluded its investigation into a death in the presence of Winnipeg Police Service (WPS) officers.

On February 10, 2020, the IIU was notified by the WPS of a domestic dispute that occurred involving a male armed with a knife. While officers attempted to diffuse the situation, the male suffered self-inflicted wounds and was transported to the Health Sciences Centre, where he was later pronounced deceased.

As this matter concerned the death of a person that may have resulted from the actions of a police officer or police officers(s), the IIU assumed responsibility for this mandatory investigation in accordance with section 65 of The Police Services Act (PSA). Further, in accordance with section 70(1) of the PSA, the IIU was required to seek the appointment of a civilian monitor as this matter involved the death of a person. Accordingly, the IIU requested the Manitoba Police Commission to appoint a civilian monitor.

A team of IIU investigators was assigned to the investigation, and reviewed the following:

- WPS Investigative Summary;
- WPS officers' notes and narrative reports;
- Forensic Identification Unit report and photographs;
- WPS call history;
- 911 call recordings;
- WPS radio transmissions recordings;
- Conductive Energy Weapons (CEW) download reports and analysis; and
- Autopsy Report respecting the AP.

The IIU's civilian director did not find evidence to support a finding that either officer contributed to the cause of the male's death.

The investigation is now complete and the matter is closed. The civilian director's complete report is available online at www.iiumanitoba.ca.

The details of this investigation were first announced on February 12, 2020.

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Media inquiries may be directed to:
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Information on the IIU can be found at www.iumanitoba.ca or at www.twitter.com/IIUManitoba